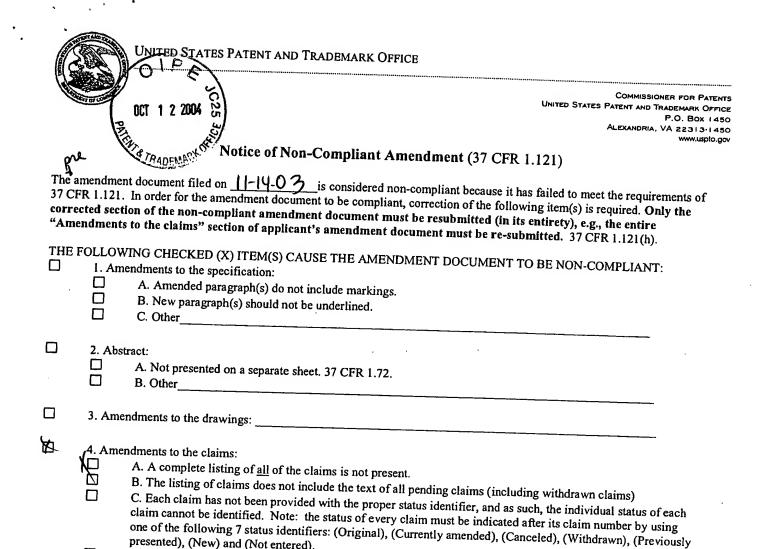


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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO |
|---|-------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| 10/706,964 | 11/14/2003 | Mitsuya Kinoshita | 67161-129 | 7788 |
| 7590 09/23/2004 | | | EXAMINER | |
| McDermott, Will & Emery 600 13th Street, N.W. | | | NGUYEN, VIET Q | |
| Washington, DC 20005-3096 | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| | | | 2818 | |
| | | | DATE MAIL ED: 00/23/2004 | |

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.





For further explanation of the amendment format required by 37 CFR 1.121, see MPEP Sec. 714 and the USPTO website at http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/dapp/opla/preognotice/officeflyer.pdf .

D. The claims of this amendment paper have not been presented in ascending numerical order.

E. Other: Claims 8+9 has no text or stat

presented), (New) and (Not entered).

If the non-compliant amendment is a PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT, applicant is given ONE MONTH from the mail date of this letter to supply the corrected section which complies with 37 CFR 1.121. Failure to comply with 37 CFR 1.121 will result in non-entry of the preliminary amendment and examination on the merits will commence without consideration of the proposed changes in the preliminary amendment(s). This notice is not an action under 35 U.S.C. 132, and this ONE MONTH time limit

If the non-compliant amendment is a reply to a NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION (including a submission for an RCE), and since the amendment appears to be a bona fide attempt to be a reply (37 CFR 1.135(c)), applicant is given a TIME PERIOD of ONE MONTH from the mailing of this notice within which to re-submit the corrected section which complies with 37 CFR 1.121 in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD ARE AVAILABLE UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

If the amendment is a reply to a FINAL REJECTION, this form may be an attachment to an Advisory Action. The period for response to a final rejection continues to run from the date set in the final rejection, and is not affected by the non-compliant

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571-272-1620 Telephone No.

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REVISED AMENDMENT PRACTICE: 37 CFR 1.121 CHANGED COMPLIANCE IS MANDATORY - Effective Date; July 30, 2003

All amendments filed on or after the effective date noted above must comply with revised 37 CFR 1.121. See Final Rule: Changes To Implement Electronic Maintenance of Official Patent Application Records (68 Fed. Reg. 38611 (June 30, 2003), posted on the Office's website at: http://www.uspto.gov/web/patents/ifw/. 38611 (June 30, 2003), posted on the Office's website at: http://www.uspto.gov/web/patents/ifw/. 38611 (June 30, 2003), posted on the Office's website at: http://www.uspto.gov/web/patents/ifw/. 38611 (June 30, 2003), posted on the Office set forth in revised 37 CFR 1.121, and described below, replaces with related information. The amendment format available to applicants since February 2003. NOTE: STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH THE REVISED 37 CFR 1.121 IS REQUIRED AS OF THE EFFECTIVE DATE (July 30, 2003). The Office will notify applicants of amendments that are not accepted because they do not comply with 30, 2003). The Office will notify applicants of amendments that are not accepted because they do not comply with 30, 2003). The Office will notify applicants of amendments that are not accepted because they do not comply with 30, 2003). The Office will notify applicants of amendment. See MPEP 714.03 (Rev. 1, Feb. 2003). The non-revised 37 CFR 1.121 via a Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment. See MPEP 714.03 (Rev. 1, Feb. 2003). The non-revised 37 CFR 1.121 via a Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment. See MPEP 714.03 (Rev. 1, Feb. 2003).

Bold underlined italic font has been used below to highlight the major differences between the revised 37 CFR

1.121 and the voluntary revised amendment format that applicants could use since February, 2003.

Note: The amendment practice for reissues and reexamination proceedings, except for drawings, has not changed.

REVISED AMENDMENT PRACTICE

I. Begin each section of an amendment document on a separate sheet:

Each section of an amendment document (e.g., Specification Amendments, Claim Amendments, Drawing

Amendments, and Remarks) must begin on a separate sheet. Starting each separate section on a new page will

Amendments, and Remarks) must begin on a separate sheet. Starting each separate section on a new page will

activate the process of separately indexing and scanning each section of an amendment document for placement in an image file wrapper.

II. Two versions of amended part(s) no longer required:

37 CFR 1.121 has been revised to no longer require two versions (a clean version and a marked up version) of each replacement paragraph or section, or amended claim. Note, however, the requirements for a clean version and a marked up version for substitute specifications under 37 CFR 1.125 have been retained.

A) Amendments to the CIRITIES:

Bach amendment document that includes a change to an existing claim, cancellation of a claim or submission of a new claim, must include a complete listing of all claims in the application. After each claim number in the listing, the claim, must include a complete listing of all claims in the application. After each claim number in the listing, the status must be indicated in a parenthetical expression, and the text of each pending claim (with markings to show status must be indicated in a parenthetical expression, and the text of each pending claim in the application.

Current changes) must be presented. The claims in the listing will replace all prior claims in the application.

- (1) The current status of all of the claims in the application, including any previously canceled, not entered or withdrawn claims, must be given in a parenthetical expression following the claim number using only one of the following seven status identifiers: (original), (currently amended), (canceled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented) and (not entered). The text of all pending claims, including withdrawn claims, must be submitted each time any claim is amended. Canceled and not entered claims must be indicated by only the claim number and status, without presenting the text of the claims.
- (2) The text of all claims being currently amended must be presented in the claim listing with markings to indicate the changes that have been made relative to the immediate prior version. The changes in any amended claim must be shown by underlining (for added matter) or strikethrough (for deleted matter) with 2 exceptions: (1) for deletion of five characters or fewer, double brackets may be used (e.g., [[eroor]]); and (2). If strikethrough cannot be easily perceived (e.g., deletion of the number "4" or certain punctuation marks), double brackets must be used (e.g., [[4]]). As an alternative to using double brackets, however, extra double brackets must be used (e.g., [[4]]). As an alternative to using double brackets, however, extra portions of text may be included before and after text being deleted, all in strikethrough, followed by including and underlining the extra text with the desired change (e.g., number 4 as number 14 as). An including and underlining the extra text with the desired change (e.g., number 4 as number 14 as). An accompanying clean version is not required and should not be presented. Only claims of the status "currently amended," and "withdrawn" that are being amended, may include markings.
- (3) The text of pending claims not being currently amended, including withdrawn claims, must be presented in the claim listing in clean version, i.e., without any markings. Any claim text presented in clean version will constitute an assertion that it has not been changed relative to the immediate prior version except to omit markings that may have been present in the immediate prior version of the claims.